

## Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 SSO-00 AID-05  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 ABF-01 OMB-01 DODE-00  
TRSE-00 INRE-00 IGA-02 /044 W  
-----151751Z 050937 /47

O 151733Z FEB 77  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5232  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1107

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJ: IRC PROGRAM IN THAILAND

REF: A. GENEVA 1061, B. STATE 32035

1. DURING SESSION ON IRC PROGRAM IN THAILAND PARTICIPATED  
IN BY IRC REPS DEVECCHI AND ACERSON, MISOFF AND UNHCR  
REPS MACE AND GOBIUS, FEB 14, LATTER RAISED OBJECTIONS  
TO INCLUSION OF \$65,000 EARMARKED FOR IRC WITHIN \$1.1 MIL-  
LION CARE AND MAINTENANCE FUNDS FOR UNHCR INDOCHINESE  
REFUGEE PROGRAM. POINT OF OBJECTION WAS THAT UNHCR UNDER  
ITS AGREEMENT WITH THAI GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACT UNILATERALLY,  
BUT COULD TURN OVER \$65,000 TO IRC ONLY WITH GOT'S  
KNOWLEDGE AND CONSENT. UNHCR REPS UNDERScoreD THAT GOT  
HIGHLY SENSITIVE IN REGARD TO ANY ACTION IT MIGHT PER-  
CEIVE AS ATTEMPT BY EXTERNAL ELEMENTS TO PROMOTE OPERA-  
TIONS IN THAILAND WITHOUT ITS AUTHORIZATION. PARTICIPANTS  
AGREED THAT BEFORE REJECTING THIS METHOD OF APPROACH,  
HOWEVER, UNHCR WOULD CHECK WITH ITS FIELD REPS IN  
BANGKOK TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER TRANSFER OF THESE FUNDS  
AS PROPOSED REF B WOULD INDEED CAUSE PROBLEM.

2. UNHCR PURSUED MATTER ACCORDINGLY TODAY (FEB 15)  
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AND THEIR BANGKOK REPS HAVE SUPPORTED CONTENTION  
HERE THAT SUCH A TRANSACTION WOULD BE INADVISABLE.  
IN FACT, IRC BANGKOK REP HOFFACKER HAS STATED HE IS  
OPPOSED TO THIS PROCEDURE IN VIEW OF HIS DELICATE  
RELATIONS WITH THE THAI GOVERNMENT, WHICH, IN HIS  
JUDGEMENT, MIGHT BE RENDERED MORE DIFFICULT WERE THE  
QUESTION RAISED OF DIVERTING U.S.-PROVIDED FUNDS FOR

THE UNHCR PROGRAM IN THAILAND TO THE IRC OPERATION THERE. ACCORDINGLY, UNHCR RECOMMENDS THAT EITHER THESE FUNDS BE TURNED OVER DIRECTLY TO THE IRC OR, IF DESIRED, THAT THEY BE TRANSFERRED TO IRC THROUGH UNHCR IN NEW YORK OR GENEVA, BUT WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE LATTER'S THAI PROGRAM.

3. PLEASE PROTECT FOLLOWING. DEVECCHI STATED IN CONFIDENCE THAT AN IMPORTANT PART OF HIS CURRENT MISSION TO BANGKOK IS TO LOOK INTO REPORTS IRC HEADQUARTERS HAS RECEIVED OF POOR PERSONAL RELATIONS BETWEEN IRC'S REP IN BANGKOK AND HIS UNHCR AND GOT OPPOSITE NUMBERS. DEPENDING UPON HIS FINDINGS IN THIS AND OTHER AREAS, DEVECCHI WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS EITHER FOR CONTINUING IRC'S MEDICAL PROGRAM IN THAILAND, MODIFYING IT, PHASING IT DOWN OR OUT. THE LATTER IS IRC'S ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE IN ANY EVENT, WITH A VIEW TOWARD MAKING MEDICAL PROGRAMS IN THE CAMPS SELF-SUFFICIENT. BECAUSE OF THIS TENUOUS SITUATION, DEVECCHI STATED, ALMOST ALL OF IRC'S FIELD OPERATORS ARE ON VERY SHORT-TERM COMMITMENTS.

4. ALSO OF POSSIBLE INTEREST IN THIS REGARD, DEVECCHI SAID THAT A CONSIDERABLE PART OF IRC'S EFFORT IN THAILAND IS DIRECTED TOWARD INDIGENOUS GROUPS AS WELL AS TOWARD THE REFUGEE CAMPS. IN TODAY'S TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, UNHCR REPORTS THAT ITS ACTING BANGKOK REP (MORRIS) ESTIMATED THAT LESS THAN 40 PERCENT OF IRC ACTIVITY IN THAILAND WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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DEVOTED TO THE CAMPS, WITH THE BALANCE PROVIDED TO INDIGENOUS GROUPS. MISSION HAS NO WAY OF JUDGING THIS ASSESSMENT BUT EMBASSY BANGKOK MAY WISH TO COMMENT.

5. FOR EMBASSY BANGKOK: WE HAVE FOUND EX-FSO DEVECCHI A PLEASANT, KNOWLEDGEABLE AND PERCEPTIVE INDIVIDUAL, VERY SATISFYING TO WORK WITH, AND COMMEND HIM TO YOU. CATTO

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RELIEF, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ORM  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 GENEVA 1061, 77 STATE 32035  
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**SAS ID:** 3322416  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** IRC PROGRAM IN THAILAND  
**TAGS:** SREF, TH, IRC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009